

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing settings of applications executing on a computer system, comprising:

detecting configurations associated with a plurality of instances of an executing application, wherein each configuration comprises a plurality of settings;
receiving a setting selection from among the plurality of settings;
determining an inheritance state for the selected setting; ~~and~~
displaying a graphical indication of the inheritance state of the selected setting; ~~and~~
displaying a current value for the selected setting, wherein the current value is displayed using a control type used by a managed application for the selected setting.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the graphical indication of the inheritance state indicates at least one state chosen from the group consisting of: the selected setting is inherited by another setting, the selected setting is inheriting from another setting, the selected setting is both inheriting from another setting and is being inherited by another setting, and the selected setting is not inheriting or being inherited.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the graphical indication of the inheritance state indicates at least one state chosen from the group consisting of: the selected setting can inherit or be inherited, and the selected setting cannot inherit or be inherited.

PATENT -- AMENDMENT

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a graphical indication of the inheritance relationship between the selected setting and at least one related setting.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one related setting comprises a setting that is not currently in an inheritance relationship with the selected setting.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the graphical indication of the inheritance relationship comprises an inheritance indicator.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
 - receiving a change inheritance relationship command; and
 - changing the inheritance relationship for the selected setting.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining whether changing the inheritance relationship for the selected setting will affect other settings.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- receiving a change inheritance state command; and
 - changing the inheritance relationship for the selected setting.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining whether changing the inheritance relationship for the selected setting will affect other settings.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising updating the other settings.
- 14-21. (Cancelled)
22. (Currently Amended) A method for managing instances of an application in an IT system, comprising:
- (a) launching a manager for managing a plurality of executing instances of an application, the manager comprising:
 - data representing a plurality of executing instances of the application;
 - a control widget associated with a selected setting for one instance of the application, the control widget comprising an inheritance state indicator and a current value indicator; wherein the current value is displayed using a control type used by a managed application for the selected setting; and
 - an inheritance relationship indicator that indicates the inheritance relationship between the selected setting and at least one other setting;

- (b) selecting the control widget associated with a desired setting for at least one of the plurality of instances of the application;
- (c) modifying the current value for the desired setting; and
- (d) modifying the inheritance state for the desired setting.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein detecting the configurations comprises reading configuration files and further comprising updating the configuration files.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein detecting the configurations comprises reading configuration files and further comprising updating the configuration files.